

# صفة صلاة النبي

صلى الله عليه وسلم

## Description Of The Prayer Of The Prophet Muhammed

(May Peace And Blessings Of Allah Be Upon Him)

**Madrasa Ansar As-Sunna**

## Sifat-us Salah (The Description of Salah)

### Niyyah (Intention)

It is narrated on the authority of Amir al-Mu'mineen (Leader of the Believers), Abu Hafs 'Umar bin al-Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: I heard the Messenger of Allah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him), say: **"Actions are (judged) by motives (Niyyah), so each man will have what he intended. Thus, he whose migration (hijrah) was to Allah and His Messenger, his migration is to Allah and His Messenger; but he whose migration was for some worldly thing he might gain, or for a wife he might marry, his migration is to that for which he migrated."**<sup>1</sup>

### Takbiratul Ihram and Qiyam (standing)

Ali ibn Talib narrated that the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) said, **"The key to the prayer is the purification. The act that puts on into the inviolable state (of prayer) is takbeer. And the act that ends the inviolable state is the salutation."**<sup>2</sup>

Abu Hurairah also reported that the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) said to the one who did not perform his prayer properly, **"When you stand to perform the prayer, state the takbeer."**<sup>3</sup>

### Raising the Hands

#### Raise hands with Takbir up to the Shoulders:

Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Umar: **I saw Allah's Messenger (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) opening the prayer with the Takbir and raising his hands to the level of his shoulders at the time of saying the Takbir.....**"<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Recorded by Bukhari and Muslim

<sup>2</sup> Recorded by Tirmizi, Abu Dawood and Ibn Majah. Hadith graded Sahih

<sup>3</sup> Recorded by Bukhari and Muslim

<sup>4</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

## Placing of the Hands

**Place right hand (Palm) on the back of the left wrist and forearm:**

Wa'il ibn Hujr reported that, "He (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) placed his right hand upon his left hand, wrist and forearm."<sup>5</sup>

**Place hands on the chest or below the navel or above the navel<sup>6</sup>**

## Opening Supplication

اللَّهُمَّ بَاعِدْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ خَطَايَايَ كَمَا بَاعَدْتَ بَيْنَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ، اللَّهُمَّ  
نَقِّنِي مِنْ خَطَايَايَ، كَمَا يُنَقَّى الثَّوْبُ الْأَبْيَضُ مِنَ الدَّنَسِ، اللَّهُمَّ اغْسِلْنِي مِنْ  
خَطَايَايَ بِالثَّلْجِ وَالْمَاءِ وَالْبَرَدِ

**"O Allah, separate me from my sins as You have separated the East from the West. O Allah, cleanse me of my transgressions as the white garment is cleansed of stains. O Allah, wash away my sins with ice and water and frost."<sup>7</sup>**

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ وَتَبَارَكَ اسْمُكَ وَتَعَالَى جَدُّكَ وَلَا إِلَهَ غَيْرُكَ

**You are Glorified, O Allaah, and Praised; Your Name is Blessed; Your Majesty is Exalted, and none has the right to worshipped but You<sup>8</sup>**

<sup>5</sup> Recorded by Abu Dawood and Nasa'i. Hadith graded Sahih

<sup>6</sup> The Sahaba and Taabi'een (the generation after the sahabahs) were upon the view that one is free to choose; either to put one's hands on the chest, on the navel, on the belly or even below that, there is nothing wrong to do one of these.

<sup>7</sup> Recorded by Sahih Bukhari and Sahih Muslim

## Seeking refuge in Allah:

One should say:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

“I seek refuge with Allaah from Shaitân (Satan), the outcast (the cursed one).”<sup>9</sup>

## Say Basmalah quietly:

Anas (Radiallahu Anhu) states, "I have performed congregational Salah behind the Messenger of Allah (May Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Abu Bakr, Umar and Uthmaan (Radiallahu anhum) and I did not hear any one of them recite **Bismillahir rahmaan nir raheem**"<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> This narration is not Marfoo (a narration which is connected) to the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him); it is a confirmed statement of Umar ibn Khattab as said by Imam Muslim in his Sahih and by Imam Ibn Khuzaymah.

<sup>9</sup> Surah Nahl: 98/ Recorded by Abu Dawood & Tirmidhi with a Hasan chain.

<sup>10</sup> Recorded by Muslim

## Recitation

### Reciting Surah Fatihah

Narrated Ubadah bin As Samit that Allah's Messenger (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) said, **"Whoever does not recite Al-Fatihah in his prayer, his prayer is invalid."**<sup>11</sup>

- ❖ It is Sunnah to read it loud in Fajr, Maghrib and Isha
- ❖ It is Sunnah to recite it quietly in Zuhr and Asr
- ❖ When in the loud prayers we stay quiet, we listen to the Imam. While in the silent prayers we recite the Fatihah<sup>12</sup>

### Saying Ameen

Abu Hurairah narrated that the Prophet (May Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, **"If the Imam says: 'Ameen', say 'Ameen' for if one's Ameen corresponds with the Ameen of the angels, all of his previous sins will be forgiven."**<sup>13</sup>

### Reciting a Surah after Fatihah:

Abu Hurayrah said: "In every prayer there is recitation. What we heard the Prophet (May Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say, we tell you, and what he did not tell us about we cannot tell you. **Whoever recites Umm al-Kitab (i.e., Surah al-Fatihah) has done enough, and whoever does more than that, that is better.**"<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

<sup>12</sup> Recorded by Muslim and also proof is the ayah in Surah A'raaf: 204. This is the opinion of Sheikhu Islam Ibn Taymiyyah and a group from the scholars, that it is obligatory upon the one being led during the silent prayers in which the Imam does not make his recitation audible to recite the Fatihah, like the Dhuhr and 'Asr (prayers), and as for the audible prayers one remains quiet and listens because the Imam's recitation is sufficient. They (those who adopted this opinion) said: And by this (opinion), the proofs are reconciled; so the evidences which obligate the recitation of al-Fatihah refer to the discreet prayer and the other evidences and the noble Ayah refers to the audible prayer; and this opinion appears to be the fairest.

<sup>13</sup> Recorded by Bukhari, Muslim, Nasa'i, Abu Dawood, Tirmizi and Ibn Majah.

<sup>14</sup> Recorded by Bukhari and Muslim

Abu Qatadah reported that the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him), **would recite al-Fatihah and some surah in the first two rak'ah of the noon prayer**, and only al-Fatihah in the last two rak'ah. Sometimes he would recite some verses. The first rak'ah's recital would be longer than the second. That was how it was done in the afternoon and morning prayers.<sup>15</sup>

- ❖ Ijma (Consensus) to read a surah after Fatihah in the first 2 rakats of every salah
- ❖ It is not recommended to recite a surah after Surah Fatihah in the last 2 rakats of every salah and the last rakah of Maghrib

## Ruku (Bowing)

### Raise hands up to shoulders and go into Ruku (Bowing):

Abdullah Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that when the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) started his prayer, he would say "Allaahu akbar" and raise his hands, **when he bowed in ruku' he would raise his hands**, when he said "Sami'a Allaahu liman hamidah [Allaah hears those who praise Him]" he would raise his hands, and when he stood up after two Rak'ahs he would raise his hands.<sup>16</sup>

### Place palms on the knees (as though grasping them):

Mus'ab b. Sa'd reported: I said prayer by the side of my father and placed my hands between my knees. My father said to me: Place your hands on your knees. I repeated that (the previous act) for the second time, and he struck at my hands and said: **"We have been forbidden to do so and have been commanded to place our palms on the knees."**<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Recoded by Bukhari, Muslim and Abu Dawood

<sup>16</sup> Recorded in Bukhari and Abu Dawood

<sup>17</sup> Recorded by Bukhari and Muslim

## The Tasbeeh in Ruku

Hudayfah said, “I prayed with the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) and he used to say while bowing, ‘Subhanna Rabbiyal-Adheem (Exalted and perfect is my Lord the Great), and in his prostration, ‘Subhanna Rabbiyal-A’la (Exalted and perfect is my Lord, the All-High)’”<sup>18</sup>

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْعَظِيمِ

"How perfect my Lord is, The Supreme"

## Raising up From Ruku

**Then rise up from Ruku and raise the hands:**

Abdullah Ibn ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that when the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) ‘..... when he said “**Sami’a Allaahu liman hamidah [Allaah hears those who praise Him]**” he would raise his hands, .....<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Recorded in Sunan Nasa’i, Abu Dawood and Tirmizi. Hadith graded Sahih.

<sup>19</sup> Recorded by Bukhari and Abu Dawood

**Then one should straighten up his back out of ruku, while saying:**

Narrated Rifa'a bin Rafi Az-Zuraqi: One day we were praying behind the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him). **When he raised his head from bowing, he said, "Sami'a-l-lahu Liman hamida."** A man behind him said, "Rabbana walaka-l hamd hamdan Kathiran taiyiban mubarakan fihi" (O our Lord! All the praises are for You, many good and blessed praises). When the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) completed the prayer, he asked, "Who has said these words?" The man replied, "I." The Prophet said, "I saw over thirty angels competing to write it first."<sup>20</sup>

سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ

**"May Allah answer he who praises Him [This supplication is to be made while rising]."**

**Then he would say while standing:**

Abdullah ibn Umar narrated "...And on raising his head from bowing he used to do the same and then say 'Sami 'Allahu liman hamidah, Rabbana walakal-hamd...'"<sup>21</sup>

رَبَّنَا وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ

**(Our Lord, [and] to You be all Praise).**

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<sup>20</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

<sup>21</sup> Recorded in Bukhari



## Sujood (Prostration)

### Going down into Sujood (Prostration) on either hands or Knees<sup>22</sup>

#### One must prostrate on seven parts of his body:

It was narrated from Al-Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib that he heard the Messenger of Allah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) say: **“When a person prostrates, he prostrates on seven parts of the body: His face, his hands, his knees and his feet.”**<sup>23</sup>

In another narration: Ibn Abbas narrated the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) saying: **“I have been commanded to prostrate on seven bones: The forehead” – and he pointed to his nose – “the hands…….”**<sup>24</sup>

## The Tasbeeh in the Sujood

Hudayfah said, “I prayed with the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) and he used to say while bowing, ‘Subhanna Rabbiyal-Adheem (Exalted and perfect is my Lord the Great), **and in his prostration, ‘Subhanna Rabbiyal-A’la (Exalted and perfect is my Lord, the All-High)’**”<sup>25</sup>

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّيَ الْأَعْلَى

**"How perfect my Lord is, The Most High"**

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<sup>22</sup> Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah made a valuable comment on this matter in his Majmou al-Fataawa (22/449): “Praying in both ways is permissible, according to the consensus of the scholars. If a person wants to go down knees first or hands first, his prayer is valid in either case, according to the consensus of the scholars, but they disputed as to which is preferable.”

<sup>23</sup> Recorded by Muslim

<sup>24</sup> Recorded by Muslim

<sup>25</sup> Recorded in Sunan Nasa'i, Abu Dawood and Tirmizi. Hadith graded Sahih

## Sitting between the two Prostration

**Then sit and make supplication between the Sujood by saying:**

Hudayfah said, “The Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to say between the two prostrations,

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي ، رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي

“O my Lord! Forgive me, forgive me.”<sup>26</sup>

**While sitting between the two prostrations one sits on the heels and feet:**

Tawoos said, “We asked Ibn Abbas about sitting on the heels and feet (between the two prostrations). He said ‘It is Sunnah.’ We said to him, ‘We find it harsh on the leg.’ Ibn Abbas said, ‘But it is the Sunnah of your Prophet.”<sup>27</sup>

## Second Rakah

**Then pray the second rakah as mentioned above.**

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<sup>26</sup> Recorded by ibn Majah, hadith Sahih

<sup>27</sup> Recorded by Muslim, Abu Dawood and Tirmizi.

## Tashahud

### **Sitting in the first Tashahud in the position of Iftiraash (spread your left thigh and sit on it and keep the right foot lifted up):**

Narrated by Muhammad bin Amr bin Ata: I was sitting with some of the companions of Allah's Messenger and we were discussing about the way of praying of the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him). Abu Humaid As-Saidi said, "I remember the prayer of Allah's Messenger (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) better than any one of you. ... **On sitting in the second Rak'a he sat on his left foot and propped up the right one;** and in the last Rak'ah he pushed his left foot forward and kept the other foot propped up and sat over the buttocks."<sup>28</sup>



### **Stand for the 3<sup>rd</sup> rakat and raise hands**

Narrated Nafi': Whenever Ibn 'Umar started the prayer with Takbir, he used to raise his hands: whenever he bowed, he used to raise his hands (before bowing) and also used to raise his hands on saying, "Sami a-l-lahu Liman hamida", **and he used to do the same on rising from the second Rak'a (for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Rak'a).** Ibn 'Umar said: "The Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to do the same."<sup>29</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

<sup>29</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

## Description of the Last Tashahud

**In the Last Tashahud you should recite in Tashahud:**

Ibn 'Abbas reported: The Messenger of Allah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to teach us tashahud just as he used to teach us a Surah of the Qur'an, and he would say:

التَّحِيَّاتُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَوَاتُ وَالطَّيِّبَاتُ ، السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ ،  
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَى عِبَادِ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحِينَ . أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ  
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

"All compliments, prayers and pure words are due to Allah. All acts of worship and good deeds are for Him. Peace and the mercy and blessings of Allah be upon you O Prophet. Peace be upon us and all of Allah's righteous servants. I bear witness that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger."<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Recorded in Muslim

## Send Salaam to the Prophet (Sallallahu alayhi was sallam)

Narrated Abdur Rahman bin Abi Laila: Ka'b bin 'Ujra met me and said, "Shall I give you a present? Once the Prophet came to us and we said, 'O Allah's Apostle! We know how to greet you; but how to send Salat upon you? He said, 'Say:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى  
آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ ، اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ،  
كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

"O Allah, send prayers upon Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad, just as You sent prayers upon Ibraheem and upon the family of Ibraheem. Verily, You are worthy of Praise, full of Glory. O Allah, send blessings upon Muhammad and upon the family of Muhammad, just as You sent blessings upon Ibraheem and upon the family of Ibraheem. Verily, You are worthy of Praise, full of Glory."<sup>31</sup>

## Sitting in the last Tashahud in the position of Tawarruk

Narrated from Abu Humayd al-Saa'idi (may Allah be pleased with him), a description of the prayer of the Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him), in which he said: "And when he sat in the final rak'ah, he put his left foot forward and held the other foot upright, and sat on his behind."<sup>32</sup>



<sup>31</sup> Recorded by Bukhari, Bayhaqi, Ahmad and Nasa'i

<sup>32</sup> Recorded by Bukhari

## While sitting in Tashahud one should point the finger towards the Qiblah

Narrated 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar: When Allah's Messenger sat for At-Tashahhud he placed his left hand on his left knee, and his right hand on his right knee, **folded it fingers and pointed with his right index finger.**<sup>33</sup>

It was narrated from 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar that he saw a man moving pebbles with his hand whilst he was praying. When he finished, 'Abd-Allaah said to him: "Do not move pebbles whilst you are praying, for that comes from the Shaytaan. Rather do what the Messenger of Allaah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to do. He put his right hand on his thigh **and pointed with the finger that is next to the thumb towards the Qiblah**, and he fixed his gaze on it." Then he said: "This is what I saw the Messenger of Allaah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) doing."<sup>34</sup>

## Pointing the index finger without moving it

It was narrated that 'Abd-Allaah ibn al-Zubayr said: 'When the Messenger of Allaah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) sat during the prayer, he would place his left foot between his thigh and calf, and tuck his right foot underneath him, and place his left hand on his left knee, and place his right hand on his right thigh, **and point with his finger.'**<sup>35</sup>

On the authority of Ibn Umar says: When the Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) sat for Tashahhud, he placed his left hand on his left knee and placed his right hand on his right knee, **and he formed a ring like (fifty-three)** and pointed with his finger of testimony.<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Recorded by Muslim. It should be done in such a manner that one should keep the thumb clung to the bottom of his forefinger while keeping the rest of the three fingers closed.

<sup>34</sup> Recorded by al-Nasa'i, 1160; Ibn Khuzaymah, Ibn Hibban. Hadith graded Sahih

<sup>35</sup> Recorded in Muslim

<sup>36</sup> Recorded by Muslim

## Looking at the index finger while pointing it

Abd-Allaah ibn al-Zubayr narrated **“And he should not let his gaze go beyond his pointing finger.”**<sup>37</sup>

It was narrated from ‘Abd-Allaah ibn ‘Umar that he saw a man moving pebbles with his hand whilst he was praying. When he finished, ‘Abd-Allaah said to him: “Do not move pebbles whilst you are praying, for that comes from the Shaytaan. Rather do what the Messenger of Allaah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to do. He put his right hand on his thigh and pointed with the finger that is next to the thumb towards the Qiblah, **and he fixed his gaze on it.**” Then he said: “This is what I saw the Messenger of Allaah (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) doing.”<sup>38</sup>

## Tasleem

Abdullah Ibn Mas’ud said, **“The Prophet (May Peace and Blessings of Allah Be upon Him) used to make the salutations to the right and to the left, (saying) ‘Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah’, and ‘Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah’, (turning in such a way) that the whiteness of his cheeks could be seen.”**<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Recorded by Abu Dawood. Imam Nawawi said hadith is Sahih.

<sup>38</sup> Recorded by al-Nasa’i, 1160; Ibn Khuzaymah, Ibn Hibban. Hadith graded Sahih.

<sup>39</sup> Recorded by Abu Dawood, Nasa’i, Ibn Majah and Tirmizi but without the last portion. Hadith graded Sahih.